

# Japan Christian Activity News

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## MIGRANT WORKERS IN JAPAN

### FACT-FINDING MISSION INVESTIGATES HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS OF MIGRANT WORKERS IN JAPAN

World Council of Churches fact-finding mission to Japan from June 13-18, investigating the conditions of migrant workers and asylum-seekers in Japan, found discrimination and human rights abuses of migrants common and described the situation of asylum-seekers as "shocking."

During their five-day stay in the greater Tokyo area, the mission, which included representatives from the WCC, the Christian Conference of Asia and members support groups for migrant workers in Japan, visited many groups, including:

- migrants and asylum seekers
- church and other support groups working with migrants
- lawyers with experience in working with foreigners
- city and national immigration officials
- parliamentarians and staff

The fact-finding team was invited to Japan by the Christian Coalition on the Problems of Refugees and Foreign Migrant Workers.

Formed in September 1989, the coalition is committed to appealing to the government to make it public to guarantee the rights of migrants with regard to their lawful stay and employment in Japan, and to encourage and promote the churches involvement in these efforts. The purpose of inviting a fact-finding team to Japan was to put pressure on the Japanese government through the WCC by appealing to the UN Human Rights Commission regarding this issue based on the mission's findings.

## FINDINGS

Based upon the five days of testimonies which the mission heard from foreign migrant workers and asylum seekers about their experiences in Japan and after meeting also with legal experts, support groups, bureaucrats and politicians, many concerns were noted.

Many of the migrant workers the team met were undocumented, they had overstayed their visas and therefore their status was illegal. This situation made them particularly vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. When their rights are violated or they need medical care or their wages are not paid, they are reluctant to seek help for fear of deportation.

Many illnesses and labor accident injuries go unattended. One Filipino man the group met, who could not work due to an injury he suffered at work, told of how his apartment was robbed, but that he could do nothing about it for fear of deportation.

In the face of employer harassment the workers cannot do anything - they feel that they cannot go to the police and complain or file a law suit. One male migrant, explaining the mistreatment he had received from his employer, described the situation as one where the employer can do anything he wants and asked - "Are we going to fight back with our fists or are we just going to be abused? These are the agonies that most of us are suffering."

### IMMIGRATION LAW REVISION CAUSES MANY PROBLEMS

The immigration law in Japan underwent a revision effective June 1, 1990. Under the new law any employers of undocumented foreign workers hired on or after June 1, 1990 face fines and imprisonment. The mission found that this law was poorly



understood and there are reports that it may have been deliberately misinterpreted by immigration authorities. Moreover, at the time of the WCC visit there was still no translation of the revision available. This means that for the majority of the migrants, who do not read Japanese, the law cannot be understood.

For the many undocumented workers who remain in Japan the situation is very difficult - work is much harder to come by. One young migrant who has no permanent job, and must search for work as a day laborer, told of how he has been without work for 10 days: "I'm really willing to work everyday" he said, "maybe my landlord will kick me out because I haven't paid my rent in 15 days. My friends can give me food but what about the next day. I can work, the problem is that they're not accepting us. I don't want a high salary I just want to keep myself alive. Should we Filipino's and Pakistani's go down to the train station and beg for money - NO, we have our pride, we don't want charity." Although before he tried to save up his wages to send money back home it is no longer an option. Now its just a question of survival.

Reports on the treatment of Asians in the criminal justice system reveal discriminatory treatment in comparison with nationals at every stage of the process. From arrest to investigation to sentencing, Asians receive harsher treatment than their Japanese counterparts or Western foreigners. The mission also heard cases of inhumane treatment of foreign workers by immigration and police authorities, including verbal and physical violence.

One migrant from Burma was beaten up by an Immigration Bureau employee for smoking a cigarette in a no smoking area. A worker from Pakistan, who was having a discussion with an immigration official about an extension on his visa, was roughly ordered to leave and had his passport thrown from the office out into the hall. A young man from Sri Lanka was roughly apprehended by police while walking down the street, suspecting him of carrying drugs they threw him onto the ground face first and hand cuffed him. During questioning he was hit over the head with a baseball bat. He

was released at 2:30 a.m., innocent of charges.

Although immigration officials ensured mission that interpretation is provided for migrants who do not speak English Japanese, the group heard of many cases where inadequate or non-existent interpretation caused difficulties for migrants. Moreover, interpreters are often perceived as being on the side of the police or immigration authorities and not as independent transmitters of communication.

Working and living conditions for migrants are more difficult than for Japanese. They are more likely to be involved in dangerous jobs, to have inadequate safe provisions and less likely to receive medical care and compensation in case of injury. In many cases, employers refuse to pay them or pay them less than originally promised. Migrant workers have little recourse to established procedures to seek justice in these cases.

#### ASYLUM-SEEKERS

The low rate of acceptance of asylum seekers who have fled their countries because of war or persecution was described as "shocking." Since 1982, less than 200 individuals have been granted refugee status under the 1951 Convention. Rejected asylum-seekers are often permitted to remain on a temporary basis, but must renew their visa on a monthly basis and need a sponsor to avoid detention. The mission, who met with Iranian and Afghanistan asylum-seekers noted that as countries throughout the world are trying to deal with the hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing war and state violence, Japan's policy of granting refugee status to an average of less than 25 people per year raises questions about the Government's commitment to human rights.

Those in detention can be 'bought out' if they have a guarantor. A fee for example of 250,000 yen, is paid to the center and the person is allowed out of detention into the custody of the guarantor. The guarantor, often an employer, would then employ the migrant as a worker - like a bonded laborer. In this situation the



rant is in the hands of the guarantor  
can, at any time, withdraw support,  
cing the person back into detention.

## WOMEN

o found shocking was the situation of  
an women working in the entertainment  
ustry. Although the existence of a sex  
ustry is common in industrialized  
untries, the situation in Japan appears  
be much worse. The group heard many  
ories of brokers recruiting women in  
an countries with false promises. Women  
e being bought and sold to club owners,  
ced into prostitution and kept in  
olation by their employers, unable to  
test or escape.

eir lack of independence and knowledge  
the Japanese language means that they  
e virtual prisoners of their employers,  
o are more often than not associated  
th organized crime in Japan. One lawyer  
mented that women suffer from multiple  
scrimination: they are foreign, illegal  
rkers, women, and work in the sex  
dustry. This multi-faceted  
scrimination has made it possible for  
is trade in human flesh to continue.

addition to these problems, Third World  
vernments choose to close their eyes  
en their own nationals are abused and  
ploited. By their silence these  
vernments, through their embassies, are  
so responsible for the violation of the  
man rights of migrant workers.

th Ferris, WCC representative to the  
ct-finding mission, working with CICARWS  
ommittee on Inter-Church Aid for  
ugees and World Service), explained  
at in many ways the situation of  
igrants in Japan is similar to that of  
her industrialized countries in terms of  
uman rights abuses and discrimination.  
wever, she noted that there are clear  
fferences and specified three points:

- Japan, unlike other industrialized countries, has not considered granting amnesty to those who have lived and worked in Japan for a specified period of time.

- The law in Japan is more rigidly applied, and there is less flexibility

in those cases which might not fit neatly into the rigid definition of the law.

- The situation of asylum seekers is shocking, particularly given Japan's important role in the UN High Commission on Refugees.



Ferris & Villalba Press Conference

## ECONOMIC DISPARITY BETWEEN JAPAN AND ITS ASIAN NEIGHBORS

The situation of migrant workers is not a question of families or individuals but a question of the relationship between countries and as such it is part of a much larger issue related to the economic disparity between Japan and its Asian neighbors. Workers are coming to Japan to earn money because there are not enough jobs in their home countries. If workers in the Philippines, for example, were able to earn five times their current wages, they would not have to come to Japan. Commenting on the despairing situation one worker said that the Filipino's were "Palaging Talo" - always losers.

Big companies in Japan reap much profit from these workers but yet they do not officially accept them, and their human rights are violated as a result. Government and leaders know the reality of these violations, but by leaving them in this illegal status they can make much profit and maintain control.

Mayann Villalba, CCA representative to the fact-finding mission, reflected on the situation. "Japanese society has a very efficient way of making tangible things invisible. You see the big companies but you never see the bottom of society. You see the money but you don't see how the



money was made. You see the products but not the making of the products." She said that it was Japan's responsibility to bring the migrants to a level of visibility and for Japanese to accept them into their homes and communities.

During WWII the Philippines suffered a great deal, but at that time, she continued, "...we knew how to challenge our anguish. But today its difficult. Then, we knew we had a vision to free ourselves through struggle. But today migrant workers dream of what? Even their dreams have been taken away."

"Japan is internationalized only in regard to business...We must strive to educate our children and citizens about true internationalization. Changing the economic and political relationships so that we can all live together."

The Joint Statement issued at the press conference held on the closing day and distributed to the press and related groups in Japan and abroad was signed by the WCC-CCA Fact-Finding Mission, the Christian Coalition on Refugee's and Foreign Migrant Workers' Issues and the Forum on Asian Immigrant Workers. Included in the statement was a seven-point action program geared toward raising awareness, providing support and information on the situation of foreign migrants in Japan. Also included was a plan to utilize the United Nations to bring pressure on the Japanese government in regard to human rights violations.

## JUSTICE DENIED

### AN UPDATE ON THE 1991 ISSUES

AN "INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON JAPAN'S ALIEN REGISTRATION LAW ISSUES IN THE 1990'S" WILL BE HELD BETWEEN MONDAY JULY 2 AND WEDNESDAY JULY 4, 1990 AT THE KWANSEI GAKUIN SEMINAR HOUSE IN HYOGO PREFECTURE. THE FOCUS OF THE SYMPOSIUM WILL BE "THE LIBERATION OF KOREANS IN JAPAN AND THE ENGAGEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH - LEGAL RIGHTS, HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL ROLES." A NUMBER OF PROMINENT PERSONS IN THE CONTINUING STRUGGLE WILL

INFORM THE SYMPOSIUM ON SEVERAL ISSUES INCLUDING, AMONG OTHERS, "ALIEN REGISTRATION LAW RESISTANCE MOVEMENT IN THE 1980'S AND PROSPECTS FOR THE 1990'S" AND "INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS MOVEMENT AND THE JAPANESE STATE AND PEOPLE."

Both the May 24 visit of ROK (Republic Korea) president Roh Tae Woo and the controversy over an imperial apology to Japan's colonial practices in Korea obscure a crucial fact. The Japanese government has refused to make amends for that past by improving the situation of Koreans in Japan. On April 30, Japanese and ROK officials in Seoul agreed on a six-point program for south Korean residents in Japan. In this agreement progress is more apparent than real.

### GENERAL OBJECTIONS

1. Neither government consulted the Japanese Korean community. The demands of Koreans in Japan (see below) are not reflected in the April 30 agreement.
2. Negotiations were based on expediency rather than principle as Japan avoids any reference to the colonization of Korea. Seoul is primarily concerned with using the issue as a bargaining chip to win more concessions from Tokyo on economic and technological cooperation. To Koreans in Japan, the "settlement" looks like another political "deal" made at the expense.
3. The agreement creates the false impression that "third generation" Koreans will be exempt from fingerprinting. The mass media has swallowed whole this manipulation of treaty jargon. In terms of the negotiations, the word "generation" is merely a legal term. Biologically, second, third and even fourth generation Koreans (approximately 120,000 persons) will continue to be fingerprinted at age sixteen well into the twenty-first century.
4. The government has indicated that changes in status accorded to south Koreans will also apply to north Koreans and Taiwanese. The fact is that Koreans and Taiwanese communities



will remain divided into several legal statuses. They will still be subject to bureaucratic authority and control.

During negotiations the Justice Ministry and National Policy Agency have resisted proposals to ameliorate the situation of Koreans and Taiwanese. As a result of intense lobbying, the ministry will retain jurisdiction in five of the six clauses of the new accord. The wielding of discretionary authority to limit Korean and Chinese rights will continue.

#### SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS TO THE APRIL 30 AGREEMENT

CLAUSE 1: "JAPAN WILL RECOGNIZE IN PRINCIPLE THE PERMANENT RESIDENCY OF SOUTH KOREANS AND SIMPLIFY PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING IT."

COMMENT - The Japanese government refuses to create a single special status, conditional and automatic, for all Korean and Taiwanese residents. Even members of the same family have different residence permits. Permanent residency remains a privilege, not a right. To obtain it, "third generation" Koreans will have to apply to the Justice Ministry.

CLAUSE 2: "DEPORTATION WILL BE LIMITED TO CRIMES RELATED TO INTERNAL CIVIL DISORDERS, THOSE AFFECTING JAPAN'S EXTERNAL RELATIONS OR DIPLOMACY AND THOSE OF SIMILAR MAGNITUDE."

COMMENT - Eliminating other reasons for deportation is an important improvement. This specific clause, however, has been carried over intact from the 1965 Normalization Treaty. None of the crimes against the state are defined. "Those of similar magnitude" is an all-inclusive phrase that gives authorities broad latitude in defining and punishing political activities.

CLAUSE 3: "THE MAXIMUM PERIOD FOR RE-ENTRY VISAS WILL BE EXTENDED TO FIVE YEARS."

COMMENT - Permanent residency would seem to imply no re-entry visas. Such visas will still be at the discretion of the Justice Ministry. In the past re-entry visas have been denied for fingerprint refusal or other Alien Registration Law

violations. Denial of re-entry rights as an administrative punishment for other offenses will probably continue.

CLAUSE 4: "IN CONSIDERATION OF THE STATUS OF THE THIRD GENERATION KOREANS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS, THEY WILL NOT BE SUBJECT TO FINGERPRINTING. AN APPROPRIATE METHOD OF IDENTIFICATION WILL BE ANNOUNCED SOON."

COMMENT - Fingerprinting is not being eliminated. The fact that the overwhelming majority of Korean residents of Japan will not be affected by this provision is of more critical consideration that the exemption of "third generation" Koreans from this requirement. Given the general human rights record of the Japanese government, the lack of definition for "appropriate alternative method of identification" may prove to be problematic.

CLAUSE 5: "IN CONSIDERATION OF THE STATUS OF THE THIRD GENERATION KOREANS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS, JAPAN WILL FIND AN APPROPRIATE SOLUTION TO THE 24-HOUR CARD-CARRYING SYSTEM."

COMMENT - Again, observers need to be wary of the lack of definition. The Japanese government has proposed introducing a family registry system for "third generation" Koreans similar to the Japanese "Koseki" system. This move is a return to the pre-1945 system of separate (second-class) "Koseki" registers for colonial subjects.

CLAUSE 6: "IN ADDITION, JAPAN WILL CONTINUE TO CONSULT WITH SOUTH KOREA CONCERNING THE PROBLEM OF (ETHNIC) EDUCATION, THE RIGHT TO WORK AS PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, AND THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN LOCAL ELECTIONS, ETC."

COMMENT - This statement requires no action. Its effect may raise false hopes among Koreans in Japan. The Japanese government is simply committed to a discussion of this issues with the ROK government in the indefinite future.

#### THE DEMANDS OF KOREANS IN JAPAN

1. Consult directly with the various groups of Koreans in Japan concerning their legal status, social discrimination and other problems. Make such consultations the basis of policy.



2. Abolish fingerprinting, the 24-hour card-carrying requirement, the periodic renewal of alien registration cards, criminal penalties for ARL violations, and re-entry permits.
3. Guarantee a single legal status, to be conferred unconditionally and automatically, for all former colonial subjects and their descendants.
4. Guarantee ethnic rights and the conditions necessary for the full development and enjoyment of different ethnic identities.
5. Make redress to Koreans and Taiwanese for Japan's colonial policies in the form of a formal apology and provide just reparations and the improvement of their legal and social status.

### CONCLUSION

The Japanese government has declared a "new era" in Japan-ROK relations. As evidence of this, it cites the April 30 agreement on the legal status of south Koreans in Japan. The recent accords, however, do not create the conditions enabling Koreans and Chinese to live in Japan as equals and with pride in their ethnic heritage. Actually, the revisions seem to be based on the assumption that by the time they come of age, "third generation" Koreans will have accepted assimilation and become naturalized Japanese. In the meantime, the government will continue to fingerprint and keep under surveillance those of other generations (the vast majority) who refuse assimilation.

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### EXPLOSIONS ON US CARRIER MIDWAY SPUR CONTROVERSY

Two explosions rocked the US aircraft carrier Midway at sea off the coast of Japan on June 20th. The blast killed three and left sixteen others injured.

According to a statement by a spokesperson from the US Naval base, a fire which broke out on the carrier after the first explosion had been put out and the fifty-one thousand ton vessel was moving under its own power about two hundred kilometers northeast of the naval base at Yokosuka outside Tokyo.

At the time of the explosion the ship was carrying four-thousand five-hundred people including pilots and aviation crews.

According to the statement a fire and explosion erupted at 12:23 p.m. about an hour and a half after smoke had been reported. Fire fighters were called and a second explosion occurred about an hour after the first.

The navy said it was conducting routine flight operations at the time and was beginning participating in a series of naval and air exercises with the Japan Self Defense Forces.

It was said that the Japanese government received assurances that the US was following full safety precautions, however, a full report of the incident has not yet been received.

The Japanese news service, Kyodo, reports that the Midway had requested Yokosuka naval base to form a special task force to deal with major accidents, including nuclear related accidents. However, a base spokesperson said that no such unit was involved in the fire fighting operations.

There is strong anti-US sentiment among residents around the bases and among the citizens' movement struggling for the removal of the US bases and an end to the US-Japan Security Treaty. It appears that the pressure from this opposition affected the government's decision to request a full report on the accident.

The Midway is capable of carrying nuclear weapons and has been a source of controversy over the years. US vessels carrying nuclear weapons have docked at US bases in Japan. This is in direct violation of the Three Non-Nuclear Principles adhered to by the Japanese government: not to possess, not to



manufacture, and not to permit entry into  
an of nuclear weapons.

Midway was launched in 1943 and later underwent extensive modernization. The rest of the 14 US carriers, the Midway scheduled to be retired at the end of last summer and replaced by the USS Independence.

#### NCC/J APPEAL

#### TO JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER KAIFU

NCC/J HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES UNDER THE THEME: "JUSTICE, PEACE AND LIFE." IN THIS CONTEXT, IN MARCH, 1989, A MEETING WAS HELD OUTSIDE TOKYO, CO-SPONSORED BY THE NCCC-USA, FOCUSING ON PEACE ISSUES. THE THEME OF THE MEETING WAS THE PROBLEMATIC ASPECTS OF JAPAN/US MILITARY COOPERATION IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC. CHRISTIAN COOPERATION ON AN INTERNATIONAL LEVEL IS CONSTANT IN ITS WORKING FOR PEACE; AND IT IS OUR HOPE FOR PEACE THAT EMERGED AS A MAJOR CONCERN IN THE CONSULTATION.

IN ADDITION, FROM A SIMILAR VIEWPOINT, THE INCREASE IN MILITARY ACTIVITY IN JAPAN AND THE CONTINUAL ENTRY OF US NAVAL VESSELS INTO THE PORT OF YOKOSUKA, IS A THREAT TO PEACE IN NORTHEAST ASIA AND A THREAT TO THE CITIZENS OF YOKOSUKA CITY AND TO EVERYONE RESIDING IN JAPAN. THIS IS A MAJOR CAUSE OF CONCERN.

A FIRE ABOARD THE USS MIDWAY ON JUNE 20 DEMONSTRATES THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR CONCERN REGARDING THIS DANGER. WE CALL UPON THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO MAKE CLEAR STATEMENTS TO THE US GOVERNMENT THAT THE MIDWAY AND OTHER MILITARY VESSELS SHOULD NOT BE HOME PORTED IN JAPAN, AND THAT BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUAL DANGER OF ACCIDENTAL EXPLOSION ON MILITARY BASES STRICT MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN TO PROTECT THE RESIDENTS OF JAPAN AGAINST NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS.

#### US-JAPAN SECURITY TREATY

#### MARKS 30 YEARS

The controversy stirs over the explosions on the US aircraft carrier Midway, calling attention once again to the threat posed by nuclear-capable naval vessels operating out of US bases in Japan, the US-Japan Security Treaty marks its thirtieth anniversary.

The first security treaty was signed in San Francisco on September 8, 1951, emphasizing the right of the US forces to occupy Japan. At that time there were over 700 US military facilities in Japan, including bases. The treaty was in

exchange for Japan's independence but placed Japan in a role subordinate to the US.

The new and current treaty became law on June 19, 1960 amidst much controversy and opposition; yet in spite of this the treaty was single-handedly voted through by the leading faction of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

In the 1960's the anti Japan-US Security Treaty movement was supported by a wide range of citizens', labor, religious and students groups. Towards the end of the 1960's and the first half of the 1970's, during the height of the Vietnam War, the anti-base movement in many areas was vitalized and expanded nationwide. However, during the latter half of the 70's the anti-bases movement was weakened, and with the end of the Vietnam war came the breakdown of the people's movements against the Japan-US Security Treaty. In the 1980's, the anti-nuclear movements became more active. Against this background the anti-bases movements have become revitalized through citizens' movements on the local level.

It has been noted that the phrase "mutual cooperation" used to describe the new treaty distinguishes it as different from other treaties common among allied forces, exposing its character as an alliance between Japan and the US.

The treaty is a regulation regarding the use of bases and facilities by the US military. It provides for the use of civilian airports by US fighter planes, and the use of harbors by US submarines as well as the free use of public facilities. These regulations have a direct effect on the day to day lives of citizens in Japan.

In 1978 guidelines to the Treaty were approved by the Defense Conference. The contents of these guidelines deals with how the US and Japan will jointly carry forth a military operation in the case of an emergency. In this case interoperability between the SDF and the US forces are to be developed and all of Japan will be made a base from which attacks can be carried out.

Strong feelings exist among those in



opposition to the presence of the US bases in Japan and to Japanese militarism because it is felt that peace cannot be realized as long as the Japan-US Security Treaty is in force.

### PAKISTAN HOST TO CCA WOMEN'S CONSULTATION

The Christian Conference of Asia held a consultation for NCC Women's concerns secretaries from April 19-26 in Lahore, an historic site in respect to Christian history in Pakistan.

The purpose of the conference was to make plans concerning the work of Asian women both on a regional level through the CCA and in each of the member countries.

The work being done on women's issues in each country was introduced, both the work being done within and outside the church. Discussions not only focused on what activities should be carried out at the country and CCA level, but how they should be carried out. In addition, the question was raised as to how to confront the difficult problems which women are now facing.

The group determined to push for the establishment of a women's desk for the National Council of Churches in Pakistan (NCC/P). Plans had already been set in motion for the establishment of such a desk and Mrs. Khushnud Azariah, coordinator of the consultation, was chosen to represent the NCC/P women's concerns. At a gathering of NCC/P officials to welcome the consultation participants, the group was encouraged when the General Secretary announced NCC/P's support of the women's proposal, stating that they would indeed introduce a Women's Desk for the first time.

Conferees were able to have many valuable and fruitful experiences. Visits were made to Christian schools and local churches, where the welcome saw dances by children. Participants were also able to see the lifestyle of Pakistani women.

In addition to meetings, on two separate

occasions solidarity with women Pakistan was facilitated. One was dialogue between women leaders representing the Islamic faith and women from the Christian community - the first ever of its kind. Through dialogue there came to the realization that they need the cooperation of one another in order to generate the power needed to confront life's difficulties resulting from the position of women in Pakistani society.

During fellowship with Christian women participants were particularly moved by conversations with Christian nurses, who spoke of the difficulties faced by Christian women workers. Because Friday is a holiday in Islamic countries they are never able to attend Sunday church services. These women never contradict their bosses for fear of being fired or moved to another location. From the meeting it was clear that Christian women suffered from double-oppression - as part of the Christian minority and as women in Pakistan.

There was also a very painful experience in meeting with brick workers and their families. Struggling to survive, they barely have enough food and water to sustain their families and must live together in small tent-like shelters.

The consultation participants reaffirmed their commitment to change as they set forth "Suggestions for Action" at both the national and CCA level. National proposals included information exchange on issues such as rape laws and other violence against women and the foreign policy of "rich" Asian countries and the effect of policy on other poorer Asian countries. CCA level proposals included a request that women's participation in future CCA General Assemblies be at least 30% and that grassroots women's programs, e.g., social welfare, migrants, female literacy, be made a priority of CCA women's concerns. (by: Ruth Shoji)

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